

At No Time Have There Ever Been So Many Buildings of Such Value Started as During the Month Just Closed—Many New Homes Are Being Erected in Northeastern Section of City—Montana Street Is Building Very Rapidly. Apartment House Construction.

February broke every record in the value of new buildings started in El Paso, for during that month 54 permits were issued by building inspector A. E. Bartlett for structures to cost \$290,000. The fees collected amounted to \$425.50.

The most important project started, and for which a permit was issued, is the new El Paso del Norte hotel, which will grace the northwest corner of West San Antonio and El Paso streets and will cost \$125,000.

Second in the initial work came the Pearson mill, which the permit states will cost \$100,000. However, this is the initial cost of the most important industrial plant to be started in El Paso for many years.

The laborers on the Pearson site are busy clearing the ground and starting the erection of buildings, some of them but temporary structures, others the units of the vast industry that is to make El Paso a manufacturing point of much importance. This work is progressing rapidly and without interruption.

March opens well in the building world, the permits issued the first day showing buildings to be erected at a cost of \$7500. There are many important permits to be issued this month among them the new freight station at the corner of Ochoa and First streets, which will cost at least \$150,000.

Everywhere throughout the city new residences are going up. Many new homes are being built on the mountain plan and the city is spreading itself over a vast amount of territory, the trend of the new residence section being eastward at this time and northeastern El Paso being the scene of greatest activity.

Some Big Jobs. Foundations are excavated for the new Texas & Pacific freight station which is being erected on the corner of Broadway and First streets. Excavation crews will begin concrete pouring Monday morning and as soon as this has sufficiently set, the building will be commenced. Material has been arriving on the ground during the past week so that no delay is looked for in this account. A boiler room under the building is now being started.

The footings are now finished for the El Paso del Norte hotel and the Fred A. Jones company will be able to commence its work on the superstructure, which will be a magnificent high building necessary to have these footings as strong as possible to withstand the great weight which will be placed on each of them.

The warehouse being built by the Western grocery company on the corner of El Paso and First streets is now about ready for occupancy. It is a three story building costing about \$2500.

Apartment Houses. El Paso builders seem to have the craze for building apartment houses, as there are now under construction and more are being started. The California style of construction and arrangement is most in evidence and the most common.

Contractor J. C. Worthington has finished work at the Berkeley apartments on North Stanton street, between Broadway and Wyoming streets. This is one of the largest apartment buildings constructed in this city for long time. It is three stories high, with a basement under the entire length of the building. It is built on a large lot which runs the entire length of the block, and is built with a basement under the entire length of the building.

On each floor are 12 three-room apartments consisting of living room, a bedroom and a kitchen. Each suite has its own bathroom with hot and cold water. The building is completely furnished by the owners so that the occupants will not have to be bothered with supplying things other than for personal use. In the basement there will be a locker room for each apartment which can be used as a servant's room if necessary.

Two More Apartment Houses. The apartment house being erected by the Great Texas Realty Co. on West Rio Grande street is now being plastered. It contains nine apartments, is three stories high and costs \$12,000.

J. F. Crawford's apartment house is now being finished on the interior by the plasterers and carpenters. It contains six three-room apartments, each complete in every detail, including hardwood floors and a heating system. It will cost about \$10,000 and is being erected under the direction of Mr. Crawford.

Work will soon be commenced by J. R. Piek on a large apartment building adjoining his present building on West Missouri street. These apartments have always rented faster than they could be completed, and it is predicted that Missouri street and other streets in that district will be the main apartment house district.

Work has been started on an enormous building containing 50 three-room apartments which will be erected by outside capital in the near future.

Mountain Building Fast. The eastern end of Montana street is building up fast. W. M. Laughlin has just started a new house, probably the largest number of any other concern in the city. Three five-room bungalows on the south side of Oro street in northeast El Paso, in block 64, are being plastered; a six-room bungalow on Rampart street, Golden Hill, has also reached the plastering stage; a six-room bungalow at 1508 Mundy avenue is being plastered; a six-room bungalow at 1415 Arizona street and four, five and six room bungalows

are well advanced on Montana street, in the 1908 block. Aside from the three five-room bungalows on Oro street, every one of the houses under way has a basement, hardwood floors, built-in bookcases and other effects, and has a heating plant.

Handsome Home Finished. Contractor J. C. Hensen has completed his handsome home on North Kansas street, and is now occupying it. It contains eight large rooms and two large sleeping porches. The house is built on the south side of the city, which cannot be shut off by any other residence which may be built in the future.

W. L. Sawyers is having contractor Hansen build a new story residence for himself, which will be complete in every detail. The foundations have had to be dug out of solid caliche, which has taken quite a while. The house will contain six rooms and a large basement. It is built on a terrace on the corner of Kansas and Hill streets, and will cost about \$4000.

Contractor Harry Corning finished a two-story residence for the Mountain side Realty Co. on Arizona street, in Golden Hill, which cost approximately \$5000. It has already been occupied.

Building Ten Houses. The Perry Kirkpatrick Realty company now has about ten fine houses under construction. During the past week the company started a home for D. R. Bradley, in Golden Hill, on Rampart street, which will cost \$3000. The company also started two houses for E. Priest, in Northeast El Paso. These with the houses being built for C. M. Newman, M. R. Keister, C. A. Fowler, Wilson Pettus, and three for the firm direct make quite a sum of work.

Jolly & Ware now have under construction a residence, scattered all over the city. The greater part of them are about completed and will be ready for occupancy during the next week. This firm also has the contract for the labor to be furnished on the Pearson mill during the period of erection.

Some houses are homes and some are not. The house being erected by C. M. Newman is strictly a home in every sense of the word. It is being built in Highland Park on the corner of New Orleans and Alabama streets, on the northeast corner of the pretty block which extends to the north by the city. As soon as completed Mr. Newman will occupy this residence as his future home.

The house is built on four lots, which insures plenty of ground space and a beautiful site. The building itself covers a space 19 feet wide and 30 feet long. It is built on the mission style, following closely after the type of the old Spanish residences in the interior of Mexico. It is only one story high with a redwood shingle roof. The walls are to be entirely covered with stucco or pebbledash in the natural cement color.

Approaching the residence from the front, the large circle windows, which are a part of the front porch, give the house a comfortable look which can not be obtained with architecture of any other design. A large sun porch 45 by 14 feet is built in the rear, or southern side of the house. This also extends about half way around the western side of the house and is a part of the house, as large played wash are to be set in the circle arches, which will make the porch weather proof in winter. The sun porch can be removed in the summer. The floor of this place is to be laid with dark red terra cotta tiles, which will give a quarter inch joint of black cement to contrast with the tile. The tile are to be six by nine inches in size and are to be completely furnished by the owners so that the occupants will not have to be bothered with supplying things other than for personal use. In the basement there will be a locker room for each apartment which can be used as a servant's room if necessary.

Neat Convenient Features. At the west side of this room there will be a porch with a perovola built of wooden beams, which will be covered with vines during the summer months.

There are nine large rooms in the house, which is built around a central patio in the center of which will be placed a fountain and garden. The front or living room extends across the entire front part of the house. Oak trimmings and castings are to be used entirely in this room. The ceiling are to have the panel effect, worked out by the use of stained oak beams. Electric lights are to be placed in the panels. Six large book cases will be built in the walls, which are built with double partitions to allow for the depth of the cases. French window doors connect this room with the sun porch on the front, and the bed and breakfast rooms at the rear. In the east side of this room, there will be a handsome one glass window of Gothic design, which will give a very pleasing appearance to the room.

On the left hand side of the house, facing the rear, and just in the rear of the living room will be located the breakfast room. It is 10 feet wide and 12 feet long. It will have two large windows, a door leading to the porch and will be trimmed in hardwood finish.

The kitchen is just in the rear of this room and directly connected with it. It will be about 14 feet square, fitted with all the appointments of a modern kitchen. There will be several kitchen cabinets built in the walls and a large storage chest will be placed on the floor so that it will be more easily entered.

The servants' room and bath will be on the other side of the stairs, which lead to the basement from a small corridor in the rear of the kitchen.

On the left hand side of the house there will be a large bedroom or guest room, which will be finished in white enameled woodwork. Another guest room is also on this side of the house. Between these rooms a bath room is located.

Sleeping Porches. A large sleeping porch is accessible to both bedrooms, so really four bedrooms are provided for. In the rear right hand corner of the house there is a sewing room, with large windows which will admit plenty of light. This is a convenience provided for in very few homes.

In the central part of the rear of the house there will be two bedrooms, which may be thrown into one large room by opening the doors. They may be used as separate apartments, as

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EL PASO LEADS IN IMPORTS OF CATTLE

It Is the Port of Entry For the Great Chihuahua Ranches.

REVOLUTION PROVES A SLIGHT HANDICAP

The importation of cattle into the United States through the El Paso customs port has placed this port above all others in the country. This city is the center for the importation of the cattle from the large ranches of Mexico. Thousands of head of cattle are brought through here monthly and shipped to eastern markets and to grazing lands in the United States and it has proved one of the most profitable industries in northern Mexico.

The El Paso port is made important by the immense cattle lands in the state of Chihuahua to the American border, and the immensity with which the cattle raising industry is carried on in that state of the southern republic. Millions of head of cattle are being raised on the Chihuahua ranches and nearly all of the cattle placed on the market is sold to American buyers and shipped to the United States and used to supply the American markets.

In the state there are several large ranches like the Terrazas ranch which take up over half of the state and are used almost exclusively for grazing purposes.

All Comes Through El Paso. All of the cattle raised in the state of Chihuahua and other portions of northern Mexico comes to the American market through El Paso, and last year the number of head imported at El Paso from Mexico was 125,542. These were imported almost entirely in six months time, as the railroads in the country were closed for several months on account of the internal conditions in the country.

During last year the number of head of cattle imported through the El Paso customs port were valued at \$1,792,115.50, with the duty collected from their importation amounting to nearly \$500,000.

The Year 1910 Was Best. The year 1911 did not equal the previous year when 23,555 more head were imported. The number of head imported being 155,297. This was the banner year in the history of cattle importations in the country. In 1910 the importation of cattle brought in during this period over these impediments. It is safe to say that the importations during this year would greatly have surpassed the previous year.

Industry Grows. Year by year there has been an increase shown in the number of head imported through the El Paso customs port. In 1909 there were 105,935 head.

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THIRTY YEARS ON RANGE IN WEST TEXAS

J. H. Nations Has Seen the Trans-Pecos Country Transformed.

LOCAL COWMAN WHO HAS MADE HISTORY

(By Norman M. Walker.)

Alfred Henry Lewis, the bard of the barren country, sang of the "Old Cattleman of West Texas and Red Dog" and the old days in the southwest.

This day is to be of the young cattleman, of the red blood which flowed west of the Pecos into a country of cattle and cultivated fields.

As the hero of a romantic tale of the cattle days and of the Panhandle, J. H. Nations is as impressive as Plaster. Joe Nations wears no gun and has worn a cowboy hat since the day he was married. Neither does he affect the high heeled boots, the circus tent sombrero or the change of woolly western melodrama as seen in the eastern theaters and moving picture films. Nations wears a hard-boiled hat. Think of that, you shadows of Billy Plaster, Al Evans and old man Pruitt. And he rides in a phaeton buggy with a gray horse attached. Who ever heard of a cowboy riding in anything but the hurricane deck of a pitching, bucking bronco, and a side bar phaeton is beyond the pale.

Cowman, Not Cowpuncher. Joe Nations is not a cowpuncher and has not been since he was of age. There is a distinction with a difference between a cowpuncher and a cowman. The puncher rides herd for the other man and gets his salary of \$35 once each month. A cowman gets no salary, but he does get cattle, and cattle on the foot is worth more than dollars on the wing. That is why Mr. Nations has three ranches, a meat supply company and other diversified interests in El Paso and the southwest.

Starting in Gonzales county when he was so young that he does not even remember the name of his first hired-face horse, J. H. Nations has been riding herd ever since. When 1913 arrives he will have put in 30 years of active work in the western Texas country as a cattle man, having moved to the trans-Pecos country in 1883, when Alpine was a box car on the G. H. siding and folks were as scarce as the west Texas country as they are in the Arctic circle.

Started Early in Life. But 20 years does not cover the entire history of the El Paso cattleman's experience with cattle. He started riding range when he was big enough to get his booted and spurred feet into the stirrup straps of his father's old trusty horse. His father, El Nations, was a cattleman before him and he fell heir to the business instinct which had made his father one of the big cattlemen of southwest Texas. Joe rode range with his father in the open range country of Texas. His first per-

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EL PASO TO BE GREAT CENTER FOR EXTENSIVE CATTLE EXPORT

Cable News From Rome and Capital Of Russia

IS LINKED WITH MEDIAEVAL ROME

Rome, Italy, March 2.—Public interest has been excited to an extraordinary degree in the question whether the virtually inestimable valuable art collection of the late prince Marcantonio Colonna, the head of the historic house, is to be kept intact or sold by four members of the family to whom it has been bequeathed.

If the four owners transport their shares of the collection to their respective residences, it is, of course, lost to all except intimates of the owners, and that this should happen would be considered a public calamity.

Graced Hall of Postal Congress. No one who has ever visited the Colonna palace can forget the magnificent hall where the pictures hang, and which was the seat, unique and memorable, of the postal congress. It is decorated with painted, mirrors by Mario de Fiori and cupids by Mario Muratti. There are several Titianesque and Palma Vecchio, Paul Veronese's "Portrait of a Man," some Titians, with many lesser, though well known, works of art, but the most precious and interesting are 12 water color landscapes of inestimable value by Poussin.

The palace itself is one of the most attractive, historically, in Rome. Architecturally, it is a masterpiece of the sixteenth century.

St. Petersburg, Russia, March 2.—A rather strong indictment of state ownership, as far as Russia is concerned, was made in the duma, when the shortcomings in various branches of the Russian state management were illustrated in the report of a committee of inquiry read by deputy God-noff.

The navy headed the list for ruinous neglect of the interests of the treasury as well as those of the service. One flagrant instance of lack of business method was given. In replacing the ice breaker Yarny, in England, one of the engines, costing \$100,000, was removed. An offer to buy the discarded engine for \$15,000 was made, but the Russian navy, fearing that at a low price, and shipped the engine to Revel at a cost of \$4500. There it lay in the open for seven years and was finally sold for \$500. Excessive allowances and inaccurate bookkeeping on voyages of Russian war vessels abroad were very frequent. The committee discovered that on the same day in the same port different vessels purchased coal at prices varying from \$5.49 to \$9.50 per ton.

Mismanagement in Army. The army showed similar mismanagement. In one case the treasury was the gainer because of the irregularity. At the Tchia store 543,000 horseshoes were inscribed in the books, while the committee discovered by counting that the actual supply stored was 1,367,000. The supply of nails to go with them was also more than double that entered. The usual expense, however, was to find the actual stocks far short of the amount entered.

In the budget of the ministry of railways, next largest after the ministry of finance with its splendid monopoly, there was a deficit of \$1,500,000 for the year 1908 on a budget of \$20,000,000. This chronic deficit is attributed to the greater cost of construction over that prevailing on private railroads and to other similar causes. On an average the state spent \$10,000 more per year (about \$2 a mile longer) than private railroads. The Amur railroad is costing 10 to 15 percent more than the estimates. The line around Lake Balkal cost \$5,000,000 more than the estimates, that being 20 percent of the entire cost.

The state iron works on the Urals show a similar unsatisfactory record, with a deficit totaling \$5,000,000 for the last 10 years. State Railways reported to the fact that this deficit occurred despite the membership of these state works in the combination

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El Paso Spruces Up For the Cattlemen



of iron works which kept an unnaturally high level of prices, which it is not the province of the government to encourage.

Naupha-hearing lands in the Caucasus were in arrears on their payment of the land rent to the state. The sum now due from them amounted to \$15,000,000.

A particular cause of grievance was the incredible habit of most ministries to obtain money by borrowing on one hand and expend the money for other needs, thus depriving the duma of a good deal of its effective control on the budget. Such totaling \$25,000,000 were thus transferred from one head to another in one year's budget alone.

Gold Famine Threatens Russia. Scarcity of supply of the precious metals in the goldsmiths' and jewelers' trade has forced the government to undertake the retail sale of gold and silver. This so-called "gold famine" has caused heavy inroads to be made on the specie in circulation. Russian law threatens with heavy punishment the reconversion of coin into metal by private individuals as well as the clipping of coin or its reduction in weight. Nevertheless, goldsmiths have recently been melting coin in large quantities, particularly at points distant from the principal government mints. This is done especially in the "taiga," the large marshy forest which covers a great part of Siberia.

Hitherto, gold in bars could be bought only at the mints in St. Petersburg, Moscow and Odessa. To meet the legitimate demands of the trade, the ministry of finance will hereafter sell gold in bars, plancheis and sheets, 299 percent pure, at a fixed price, and allow the goldsmiths to melt and sell the pure metal in quantities up to 15 pounds of gold and 36 pounds of silver per applicant, to private individuals and government offices.

A special distributing agency through the medium of government offices at points conveniently situated throughout the empire is now being organized.

ASKS POLICE TO HELP HER FIND BROTHER. Mrs. Eva Swartwood, of 1515 South Emerson street, Denver, Colo., has written the El Paso police asking that they endeavor to locate her brother W. A. Calkins, who she says is a laundry engineer and she believes is a Mason. She says her mother is worrying about him.

There are three stock yards in El Paso. The Santa Fe stock yards were built in April, 1910, by John T. Cameron and associates. The yards were opened May 2, 1910. About 200 cattle can be accommodated at one time in the yards.

The Santa Fe stock yards are operated by a contract with the government. Figures taken from the government estimates, put the number of range cattle in Arizona, New Mexico and Texas at 7,145,000, sheep in same territory at 3,425,000; horses, 2,514,000, and mules and mules, 2,085,000. And El Paso is the shipping center for these cattle.

The cattle in Mexico, which are all shipped through El Paso, are impossible to estimate accurately, but it can be estimated that the number of cattle in the trade center for millions of Mexican cattle.

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